

What is claimed is:

1. A bi-directional access point comprising:

an interface section comprising a bridging connection for a bi-directional communication path, and an interface output connection;

an impedance boosting section coupled to the interface output connection, the impedance boosting circuit including a transformer tap output; and

an access connection point coupled to the transformer point tap output.

2. A bi-directional access point according to claim 1, wherein the impedance boosting section comprises a transformer winding with a winding tap.

3. A bi-directional access point according to claim 2, wherein the transformer winding comprises $N1$ turns above the winding tap and $N2$ turns below the winding tap, where $N1 > N2$.

4. A bi-directional access point according to claim 3, wherein $N1/N2$ is selected from a range of 2 through 6 commensurate with a preselected tap value ranging between -10 dB and -30dB.

5. A bi-directional access point according to claim 4, wherein $N1/N2$ is 6 and the preselected tap value is - 30 dB.

6. A bi-directional access point according to claim 4, wherein $N1/N2$ is 3 and the preselected tap value is -20dB.
7. A bi-directional access point according to claim 1, wherein the interface section is a resistive interface section.
8. A bi-directional access point according to claim 1, wherein the interface section is a resistive interface section comprising at least first and second resistors in series.
9. A bi-directional access point according to claim 1, further comprising a tuning section for the access connection point.
10. A bi-directional access point according to claim 9, wherein the tuning section comprises a resistive network.
11. A method for monitoring a bi-directional communication path, the method comprising:

establishing a bridging connection from a bi-directional communication path through an interface section to an interface output connection;

providing an impedance boosting section coupled to the interface output connection, the impedance boosting circuit including a transformer tap output; and

providing an access connection point to the access point tap output.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein providing an impedance boosting section comprises providing a transformer winding with a winding tap.
13. A method according to claim 12, wherein providing a transformer winding comprises providing a transformer winding with $N1$ turns above the winding tap and $N2$ turns below the winding tap, where $N1 > N2$.
14. A method according to claim 13, wherein providing a transformer winding comprises providing a transformer winding in which $N1/N2$ is selected from a range of 2 through 6 commensurate with a preselected tap value ranging between -10 dB and -30 dB.
15. A method according to claim 14, wherein $N1/N2$ is 3 and the preselected tap value is -20 dB.
16. A method according to claim 14, wherein $N1/N2$ is 6 and the preselected tap value is -30 dB.
17. A method according to claim 11, wherein establishing a bridging connection comprises establishing the bridging connection through a resistive interface section.
18. A method according to claim 11, further comprising providing a tuning section coupled to to the access connection point.
19. A bi-directional access point comprising:

interface means for establishing a bridging connection from a bi-directional communication path to an interface output connection;

impedance boosting means coupled to the interface output connection for adding an impedance boost in series with the interface means;

a transformer tap output coupled to the impedance boosting means; and

an access connection point coupled to the transformer tap output.

20. A bi-directional access point according to claim 19, wherein the impedance boosting means includes a transformer winding with a winding tap.

21. A bi-directional access point according to claim 20, further comprising tuning means for establishing at least one of a predetermined return loss and tap value for the access connection point.

22. A bi-directional access point according to claim 20, wherein the impedance boost is commensurate with a preselected tap value ranging between -10 dB and -30dB.

23. A bi-directional access point according to claim 22, wherein the impedance boost is commensurate with a tap value of - 30 dB.

24. A bi-directional access point according to claim 22, wherein the impedance boost is commensurate with a tap value of -20dB.